

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANTANA 01252 01 OF 02 071315Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-05
SP-02 IO-13 INR-07 INRE-00 PRS-01 /061 W
-----086285 071343Z /46
O R 071242Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9429
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ANTANANARIVO 1252

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MA, NK, US
SUBJECT:FURTHER THOUGHTS ON MALAGASY AND NORTH KOREAN
ACCUSATIONS AGAINST US

REF: ANTANANARIVO 1245

1 SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE SPECULATES ON THE POSSIBLE REASONS FOR
PUBLIC ENDORSEMENT BY DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR (DRM)
OF NORTH KOREAN ACCUSATION THAT US STARTED THE 1950 KOREAN
CONFLICT AND SUGGESTS CERTAIN US COUNTERACTIONS. IT ALSO
REQUESTS IMMEDIATE DESPATCH TO THIS EMBASSY OF TEXTUAL MATERIAL
DISPROVING KOREAN CHARGE, TO BE SENT TO LOCAL MEDIA. END SUMMARY.

2. IT IS DIFFICULT FOR ME TO UNDERSTAND WHY THE FOREIGN
MINISTER WENT SO FAR AS TO REPEAT THE NORTH KOREAN ACCUSATION
OF US AGGRESSION. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SIMPLE ENOUGH, I SHOULD
THINK, FOR HIM TO SIMPLY ENDORSE THE PRESENT NORTH KOREAN
POSITION OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR REUNIFICATION, AND EVEN TO
HAVE PERSUADED THE KOREAN AMBASSADOR NOT TO REFER TO 1950
FIGHTING.

3. I CAN ONLY SPECULATE THAT A) DRM OFFICIALS DO NOT
REALIZE HOW SERIOUS AN ACCUSATION THIS IS AND HOW SERIOUSLY
WE TAKE THIS SUBJECT, B) THEY ACTUALLY BELIEVE THE NORTH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ANTANA 01252 01 OF 02 071315Z

KOREAN STORY, C) THEY DO NOT THINK WE WILL BE BOTHERED
BY IT IN VIEW OF ALL THE ACCUSATIONS WE HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED
TO IN THE COURSE OF THE VIETNAMESE WAR, AND/OR D) THEY JUST DON'T
CARE. I THINK THAT WHATEVER THE REAL REASONS MY SUGGESTED
PROTEST, OR A VARIANT THEROF (ANTANANARIVO 1245) TO BE
SUGGESTED BY THE DEPARTMENT, IS ESSENTIAL, FOR THE REASONS
SET FORTH IN PARA 1 OF ANTANANARIVO 1245, AND SHOULD

BE MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. IT ALSO OCCURS TO ME THAT ABSENCE OF PUBLICITY FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE TO RATSIRAKA, AND LACK OF JULY 4 MESSAGE FROM LATTER, MAY BE DUE TO DRM PLANS TO MAKE THIS ACCUSATION. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT INCONGRUOUS FOR CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES TO APPEAR IN PRESS JUST BEFORE OR AT THE SAME TIME OUTRAGEIOUS ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE US WERE BEING MADE. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT DRM JUST TOOK ADVANTAGE OF OUR STANDARD DISCLAIMER OF INTENTION TO PUBLISH TO REFRAIN FROM PUBLICIZING EITHER MESSAGE, IF INDEED THERE HAS BEEN A JULY 4 MESSAGE DELIVERED TO US IN WASHINGTON.

5. THERE STILL REMAINS THE INCONGRUITY OF THIS ACCUSATION COMING AFTER THE PROFESSED DESIRES EXPRESSED FOR BETTER RELATIONS AND WHEN THE DRM IS ACTIVELY SEEKING US CREDITS FOR PURCHASES OF US AIRCRAFT. THIS WOULD SEEM TO ARGUE FOR REASON C IN PARA 1 ABOVE, DEMONSTRATE A CERTAIN INSINCERITY IN THEIR PROTESTATIONS, OR REFLECT THE FACT THAT THEY ARE JUST NOT THINKING. A LAST POSSIBILITY IS THAT THEY ARE DELIBERATELY TRYING TO ANTAGONIZE US, EXPECTING THAT WE WILL REACT DRASTICALLY, POSSIBLY BY STOPPING AIRCRAFT SALES, IN ORDER TO JUSTIFY SOME FURTHER EASTWARD LURCH IN THEIR FOREIGN POLICY ORIENTATION.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANTANA 01252 02 OF 02 071319Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 IO-13 SS-15
NSC-05 SP-02 INR-07 INRE-00 PRS-01 /061 W
-----086345 071342Z /46

O R 071242Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9430
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ANTANANARIVO 1252

6. MAYBE WE'LL FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HOW THIS HAPPENED IN THE COURSE OF TIME OR WHEN WE LODGE OUR PROTEST. IN THE MEANWHILE I SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING THOUGHTS ON FURTHER ACTIONS WE SHOULD TAKE AND ON HOW I BELIEVE THIS DEVELOPMENT SHOULD AFFECT OUR POSITION ON VARIOUS BILATERAL ISSUES.

7. A COUNTERCAMPAIGN IN THE MEDIA: ONCE OUR PROTEST HAS BEEN

MADE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WE SHOULD BE IN A POSITION TO
SUPPLY THE LOCAL PRESS WITH A CONTINUOUS FLOW OF MATERIALS
REBUTTING THE NORTH KOREAN CHARGE, WHICH WE EXPECT WILL CON-
TINUE TO APPEAR DURING "SOLIDARITY MONTH". THE 1950 UN
RESOLUTIONS CONDEMNING NORTH KOREAN WOULD BE GOOD STARTERS.
ACTION REQUEST: DEPARTMENT PLEASE START SENDING APPROPRIATE
MATERIAL BY CABLE ASAP. END ACTION REQUEST.

8. A HARDER LINE ON NASA SETTLEMENT: UNTIL YESTERDAY I WOULD
HAVE BEEN PREPARED TO RECOMMEND A FORTHCOMING USG POSITION WHEN
AND IF THE DRM RESPONDS TO OUR LATEST EXPRESSED POSITION
ON THIS ISSUE, JUST TO GET THIS PROBLEM BEHIND US. (AT JULY
4 RECEPTION PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT SALOFOSON IMPLIED THAT HE
WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH ME ON THIS SUBJECT NOW THAT THE ELECTIONS
WERE OVER). I NOW SEE NO REASON FOR ARR SPECIAL CONCILIATORY
ATTITUDE ON OUR PART. I WILL MAKE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS
WHEN I RECEIVE THE LATEST DRM POSITION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ANTANA 01252 02 OF 02 071319Z

9. CONTINUED DELAY IN SENDING AN AMBASSADOR: WE HAVE NOT HAD
AN AMBASSADOR HERE FOR TWO YEARS AND THIS DEVELOPMENT IS A
GOOD REASON NOT TO BE IN ANY HURRY TO CHANGE THE SITUATION.

10. NO SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS ON AIRCRAFT SALES: THE PLANNED
PURCHASE OF A 747 IS NOW PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE (IT WAS ANNOUNCED
IN JULY 6 MADAGASCAR MATIN). I DO NOT BELIEVE WE SHOULD FOR
POLITICAL REASONS INTERFERE IN THIS SALE WHICH IS APPARENTLY
COMMERCIALLY VIABLE AND WOULD DO MUCH TO REDRESS THE US/DRM
TRADE IMBALANCE. ON THE HERCULES AIRCRAFT I BELIEVE, NOW THAT
EXPORT LICENSE HAS BEEN ISSUED, THAT WE SHOULD LET THE SALE
BE DETERMINED SOLELY BY THE CREDITWORTHINESS OF THE DRM.
IF IT IS DECIDED BY US BANKERS, GIVEN DEBT SITUATION
CREATED BY 747 PURCHASE AND BY THE MOSTLY NON-COMMERCIAL USE
THESE AIRCRAFT WILL BE PUT TO, THAT HERCULES
PURCHASE IS NOT A SOUND VENTURE, THEN WE SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT
TO CREATE ANY SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS TO PERMIT IT TO GO
FORWARD. IF SALE FAILS BECAUSE OF THIS POSITION, IT WILL
UNDOUBTEDLY BE ATTRIBUTED BY DRM TO POLITICAL MOTIVES.
TO HAVE THEM BELIEVE THIS WILL NOT BE WITHOUT ITS ADVANTAGES.
BARRETT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, ALLEGATIONS, INVASIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ANTANA01252
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770241-0426
Format: TEL
From: ANTANANARIVO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770785/aaaacvpu.tel
Line Count: 161
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dd5d3570-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ANTANANARIVO 1245
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1944551
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER THOUGHTS ON MALAGASY AND NORTH KOREAN ACCUSATIONS AGAINST US
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PDIP, MA, KN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dd5d3570-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009